

Application No.: 09/942,453
Amendment and Response to October 18, 2006 Non-Final Office Action

REMARKS

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Claims 1 – 13, 15 – 19, 22, 23, 33, 34, and 45 are in the application. Claims 1, 5, 13, 23, 33, 34, and 45 are currently amended; claims 14, 20, 21, 24 – 32, 35 – 44, and 46 are canceled; and claims 2 – 4, 6 – 12, and 15 – 19 remain unchanged from the original versions thereof. Claim 1 is the independent claim herein.

No new matter has been added to the application as a result of the amendments submitted herewith. For example, claim 1 is amended to further define the recited first and second corporate information types, the corporate entity relationship information type, and the graphical aspects of the claimed invention, as fully discussed in the Specification and clearly depicted in the corresponding drawings.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 29 – 33, 35 – 37, 39 – 41, and 43 – 44 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

In reply thereto, claims 29 – 32, 35 – 37, 39 – 41, and 43 – 44 have been canceled. Accordingly, the objections to these claims are moot. Further, claim 33 is amended to clearly recite a method, like claim 1, by adding the additional operation of creating a financial product based on the relationship between the displayed information types.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections under 37 CFR 1.75(c).

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Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 33 - 44 were rejected under 35 USC 112, 1st paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. This rejection is traversed.

Claims 35 – 44 have been canceled. Accordingly, the objections to these claims are moot. Regarding claims 33 and 34, Applicant notes that claim 1 recites "a method" and claims 33 and 34 recite further aspects for "the method". The aspects of creating a financial product are enabled by the Specification at paragraphs [0010] and [0076] – [0077].

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 33 – 44 under 35 USC 112, 1st paragraph.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1 - 15, 20 – 21, 23 – 24, 29 – 30, 45 – 46 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,701,453 to Maloney et al. (hereinafter, Maloney). This rejection is traversed.

Claims 20, 21, 24, 29, 30, and 46 are canceled, therefore the rejections thereto are moot.

Regarding claim 1, Applicant notes that claim 1 relates to a method including selecting a first corporate entity information type that defines a first corporate entity; selecting a second corporate entity information type that defines a second corporate entity; selecting a corporate entity relationship information type that defines a relationship between the first and second corporate entity information types; displaying the information types in a graphical user interface view with predetermined indicia, the indicia graphically providing an indication of a connection between the first and second corporate entity information types and a strength of the relationship. The method further includes providing an alteration mechanism to dynamically change an information type, chosen from the group comprising corporate entity, corporate entity

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relationship, selection, grouping, arrangement and view type to be displayed in the graphical user interface view.

Thus, it is clear that the claimed method includes displaying indicia that graphically indicates a connection between the first and second corporate entity information types as well as indicating a strength of the relationship between the first and second corporate entity information types. As disclosed in the Specification at paragraph [0040] and [0041], the strength of the relationship may be graphically indicated by, for example, a graduated line thickness, color, pattern, shape, and size of a node. Examples of the claimed indicia are also shown in FIGS. 8 – 12.

Contrary to the claimed invention, the Maloney system and method does not disclose or even suggest the claimed “displaying said information types in a graphical user interface view with predetermined indicia, said indicia graphically providing an indication of a connection between said first and second corporate entity information types and a strength of the relationship”. In fact, Maloney discloses displaying logically connected database elements as a set of fields grouped by levels that denote logical relationships between the database information. Maloney does not disclose indicia that graphically connects database elements. Furthermore, there is no disclosure of any indicia that graphically represents the strength of any relationship between first and second corporate entity information types. Maloney instead provides a system and method that masks the complexity of relational database elements (See col. 3, ln. 12 - 15) by providing a user interface logical schema that allows logical queries of the database and determines how data is returned to the user (See col. 4, ln. 45 – 49).

Thus, it is clear that Maloney does not disclose or suggest, at least, the claimed indicia graphically providing an indication of a connection between the first and second corporate entity information types and a strength of the relationship. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Maloney does not anticipate claim 1. Claims 2 – 14, 22, 23, and 45 depend from claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2 – 14, 22, 23, and 45 are also patentable over Maloney under 35 USC 102(b) for at least depending from an allowable base claim.

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Therefore, the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the subject claims under 35 USC 102(b) are requested, as well as the allowance of same.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 16 – 19, 22, 25 – 28, and 31 – 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maloney as applied to claims 15 and 24 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,721,713 B1 to Guheen et al. (hereinafter, Guheen). This rejection is traversed.

Claims 22, 25 – 28, and 31 – 32 have been canceled. Accordingly, the rejections thereto are moot.

Claims 16 – 19 depend from claim 1. As stated hereinabove regarding claim 1, Maloney fails to disclose each and every aspect of claim 1. Furthermore, the deficiencies of Maloney are not corrected by the combination of Guheen and Maloney.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 16 – 19 are not rendered obvious by the combination of Maloney and Guheen. Therefore, the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the subject claims under 35 USC 103(a) are requested, as well as the allowance of same.

Claims 33 – 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maloney, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,317,726 B1 to O'Shaughnessy (hereinafter, O'Shaughnessy). This rejection is traversed.

Claims 35 – 44 have been canceled. Thus, the rejections to these claims are moot.

Claims 33 and 34 depend from claim 1. As clearly shown above regarding claim 1, the cited and relied Maloney fails to disclose each and every aspect of claim 1. Also, the deficiencies of Maloney are not corrected by the combination of O'Shaughnessy

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and Maloney. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 33 and 34 are not rendered obvious by the combination of Maloney and O'Shaughnessy.

Therefore, the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the subject claims under 35 USC 103(a) are requested, as well as the allowance of same.

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CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-5985.

Respectfully submitted,



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